

## TRACKING ...

### NEWS

Fort Jackson hosts  
Special Olympics

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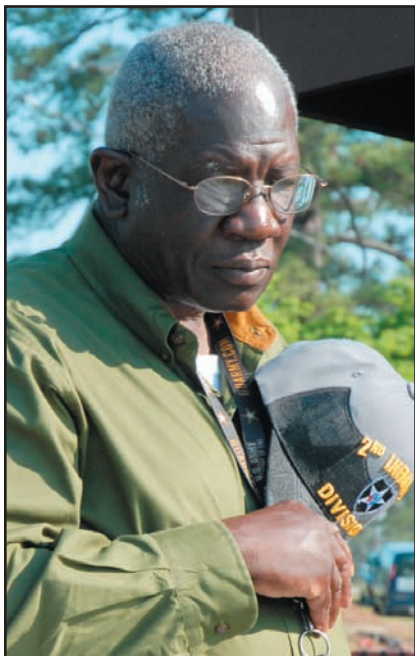
### UP CLOSE



Family crusades  
for tougher laws

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Fort Jackson shows  
retirees a good time

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# The Fort Jackson Leader



Thursday, April 30, 2009

Published for the Fort Jackson/Columbia, S.C. Community

www.fortjacksonleader.com

# Plan in place

*Post prepared to deal with swine flu*

*From Moncrief Army Community Hospital*

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 68 cases of confirmed swine flu have been identified in the United States as of yesterday.

Mexico and Canada also have confirmed cases. Based on the rapid spread of the virus so far, post officials believe that more cases will be identified the next several weeks.

Fort Jackson and Moncrief Army Community Hospital are prepared to screen and treat Soldiers, family members and retirees who may become ill with influenza symp-

toms.

Swine influenza, or swine flu, is defined by the CDC as a "respiratory disease of pigs caused by type-A influenza virus that regularly causes outbreaks of influenza in pigs."

According to the CDC, "Swine flu viruses cause high levels of illness and low death rates in pigs. Swine influenza viruses may circulate among swine throughout the year, but most outbreaks occur during the late fall and winter months similar to outbreaks in humans. Swine flu viruses do not normally infect humans. However, sporadic human infections with swine flu have oc-

curred."

The symptoms of swine flu are very similar to seasonal flu symptoms. They include fever over 100.5 degrees, body aches, cough, sore throat, runny nose and nasal congestion. Also, as with seasonal flu, it can worsen existing chronic medical conditions.

CDC recommends the use of Relenza or Tamiflu for the treatment and/or prevention of infection with these swine influenza viruses. Antiviral drugs are prescription medicines that fight against the flu by keep-

See POST PLAN: Page 6

## Out with the old



Col. Lillian Dixon, right, garrison commander, stands with acting Garrison Command Sgt. Maj. Jacqueline Lloyd, left, and Sgt. 1st Class Shirley Rouse-Rainey at a housing demolition site Monday. Rouse-Rainey was among those Soldiers whose housing was slated for demolition, which began last week.

Photo by CRYSTAL LEWIS BROWN



# Special Olympics offers spirited fun

This weekend the fort will host the South Carolina Special Olympics Summer Games for the 41st year. You read correctly — 41 years at Fort Jackson! What a fantastic cooperative effort for our state and our community and for the 1,000-plus athletes and volunteer coaches from across South Carolina.

I am so proud we support this outstanding event. For the second year in a row, the 3rd Battalion, 13th Infantry Regiment is hosting the games. With one year of experience under his belt, Lt. Col. Randy Harris, battalion commander, says the battalion has the opportunity to give back to the community and enjoy a heartwarming and uplifting time supporting the athletes.

I couldn't agree more.

Surely, this is one of those events where everyone involved benefits from the experience!

The battalion serves as the host organization — providing the housing, feeding and general command and control of the weekend's activities. The Special Olympics

## BRIG. GEN. BRADLEY W. MAY

*Fort Jackson  
Commanding  
General*



staff is in charge of the competitive games. The events being hosted on Fort Jackson include bowling, aquatics and softball. Gymnastics and track and field are at off-post venues.

Each event tests the athletes' skills and endurance. But before they take their places on the field, in the gym or in the pool, the official opening of the summer games begins with the torch-lighting ceremony. Local law enforce-

ment representatives, including our own military police, participate in the torch run, which begins at the Statehouse and ends at the Solomon Center. The torch is handed off to a Special Olympian who lights the cauldron in the front of the building, signifying the opening of the summer games.

If you've never experienced the opening ceremony or even if you've been there many times before, I personally invite you to be a part of an unforgettable event.

Never will you feel so much enthusiasm and excitement in one location.

If you'd like to start your weekend with an uplifting experience, be there as the cauldron is lit at 7:30 p.m. Friday evening, followed by the parade of athletes and opening ceremony.

Be prepared to get caught up in the spirit of the competition and be ready to cheer wholeheartedly for these awesome athletes and their coaches.

Victory Starts Here!

## The Fort Jackson Leader

**Fort Jackson, South Carolina 29207**

This civilian enterprise newspaper, which has a circulation of 15,000, is an authorized publication for members of the U.S. Army. Contents of the Fort Jackson Leader are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by the U.S. Government, the Department of Defense, Department of the Army or Fort Jackson.

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## Officer separation; Web Upload

*I am a commissioned officer and am contemplating requesting a separation from active duty. Am I required to be counseled by my first-line supervisor in my chain of command?*

When a commissioned officer or warrant officer (except for chaplains, judge advocates, and Army Medical Department personnel) with fewer than 10 years active federal commissioned service submits a request for a voluntary release from active duty or an unqualified resignation, the first colonel in the officer's chain of command or supervision will counsel the officer.

Judge advocates, chaplains and AMEDD officers will be counseled by a senior officer of their branch. If the officer is a Reserve Component officer on the active-duty list or an AGR officer, and the officer is one-time non-select for promotion, then the requirement for counseling is waived. For more information, refer to AR 600-8-24 (Officer Transfer and Discharges).

*What is Web Upload?*

Web Upload replaced Field to File (digital senders, fax to file) and is available to all Regional Readiness Commands (RRCs), S-1s and military personnel activities. Soldier documents are Web uploaded direct from unit to iPERMS for file into the OMPF. Security is provided via AKO.

*I've heard that Fort Polk, La. will become the Transition Team training site later this year instead of Fort Riley, Kan. Is this true?*

## COL. LILLIAN A. DIXON

*Fort Jackson  
Garrison  
Commander*



Yes, that is correct. MILPER Message Number 09-002 addresses the change for Soldiers on TT assignments. Soldiers selected for assignment to fill TT Team requirements will receive permanent change of station assignment instructions to Kuwait. They will PCS to Kuwait, with TDY enroute at Fort Polk, La., for training.

### GARRISON FACT OF THE WEEK

Marion Street Station was converted from an AAFES tire and oil service center to an FMWR Outdoor Recreation facility in the winter of 2003-2004, to centralize the outdoor program and to make licenses and permits easier to obtain.

The opening of Marion Street Station also allowed the rental/checkout program to expand and offer boats and campers to patrons. The plan for the upgrade had been in the works for nearly 10 years.

To submit questions, call 751-2842, or e-mail nahrwolds@conus.army.mil.

### HOW TO CONTACT THE LEADER

❑ To submit a story idea or an announcement, or to request coverage of an event, e-mail details to [FJLeader@conus.army.mil](mailto:FJLeader@conus.army.mil) or call 751-7045.

❑ Article submissions are due two weeks before the scheduled publication. For example, an article for the May 21 Leader should be submitted by May 7.

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# Civilian loses cancer fight

By **CRYSTAL LEWIS BROWN**  
Leader Staff

Members of the Fort Jackson community said goodbye Tuesday to a DA civilian and Army Reserve Soldier.

Robert Christmon, who served as a civilian battalion supply technician for 2nd Battalion, 60th Infantry Regiment, succumbed to colon cancer April 22 after a three-year battle. He was 54 years old.

"He worked with us a little over a year," said Staff Sgt. Jamila Callwood, the battalion S-4 noncommissioned officer-in-charge. "He was a really good employee."

Christmon handled maintenance requests and did not meet a task he could not handle, Callwood said.

"You'd tell him something was wrong and he'd jump right on it," she said. "He was a hard worker."

Besides working as a DA civilian, Christmon was a staff sergeant in the Army Reserves and was assigned to Columbia's 3rd Battalion, 321st Regiment. There, he was a jack of all trades, said Sgt. 1st Class Willie Briggs, senior operations NCO.

Although he served in Columbia as an instructor in the Chaplain's Basic Officer Leadership Course, early on in his 19-year military career he was an Army guitarist.

"He held several positions in the Army Reserve," Briggs said. "He was a good guy. He was on point. He was all



*Courtesy photo*

**Robert Christmon, a supply technician with the 2nd Battalion, 60th Infantry Regiment, died last week after a long battle with cancer.**

about helping — he was a team player."

Callwood added, "He will be missed."

Christmon was buried Tuesday at the Fort Jackson National Cemetery. He is survived by his wife and seven children.

*Crystal.Y.Brown@us.army.mil*

## TFM marksmen shine

By **1ST LT. WILLIAM WINTHROW**  
Task Force Marshall

A marksmanship team from Fort Jackson placed eighth in this year's All Army Small Arms Marksmanship Competition.

The competition was held earlier this year at the Army Marksmanship unit at Fort Benning, Ga. The team, which comprises drill sergeants working with Task Force Marshall, included Sgt. 1st Class Mark Thomas, team captain, Sgt. 1st Class George Loy, Staff Sgt. Jonathan Scruggs and Staff Sgt. John Reed.

The event started with the service pistol portion of the competition, which included both individual and team scoring. Scruggs placed fourth overall in the novice division.

There were also service rifle and combined arms competition.

During the service rifle portion, each participant competed in an individual Audie Murphy-style match that included a 2-mile approach run and engagements of targets from 400 meters and closer. There were also team fire events for the service rifle portion.

# Post getting ready for Special Olympics

By **MIKE A. GLASCH**  
Leader Staff

Volunteers are still needed for the South Carolina Special Olympics Summer Games. The 3rd Battalion, 13th Infantry Regiment is hosting the games, which start Friday and run through the weekend.

"We were selected last year to conduct this event and it was such an uplifting experience, we fought for the opportunity to conduct it again this year," said the battalion's commander, Lt. Col. Randall Harris.

One thousand athletes from across the state are expected to compete in one of six different sports: aquatics, bowling, track and field, cheerleading, gymnastics and softball.

"After each of these athletes have trained for many hours, many weeks to compete in local events and then progress on to reach this level at a state competition, they are more than excited, more than proud, to show off their skills," said Kelly Garrick, Special Olympics sports director.

This will be the 41st year that Fort Jackson has hosted the event.

"We are excited to be a part of this event and look forward to an awesome weekend of sportsmanship and camaraderie," Harris said. "Not only do we have an opportunity to give back to the community, but our cadre experience a heart warming and uplifting time getting to know and support the athletes."

The festivities begin Friday at 5:30 p.m. at the Statehouse steps where the State Law Enforcement Torch Run will begin. The 7-mile trek ends in front of the Solomon Center for the lighting of the cauldron.

"This competition particularly means so much to the athletes because of the warm reception and raucous level they find during the opening ceremonies," Garrick said. "The roar of the crowd and packed Solomon Center makes for a great time for all."

All the competition is slated for Saturday. The aquatics, bowling and softball events will take place on Fort Jackson. The track and field competition will be held at Richland Northeast High School and the gymnastics and cheerleading will be held at All-Star Gymnastics.

"The added interaction with Soldiers during the weekend — through their time in the mess hall, competing in their events, and dancing side by side at the Closing Ceremonies — makes this the ultimate in memorable experiences for our athletes," Garrick added.

"I think our athletes have similar effects on the Soldiers as they welcome the opportunity to help and to share their Army life with any athlete that asks."

If you would like to be a volunteer, contact the Special Olympics Volunteer Coordinator Edwena Lassiter at 722-1555 ext. 305.

*Michael.A.Glasch@us.army.mil*

## Leadership lecture



*Photo by CRYSTAL LEWIS BROWN*

**Retired Lt. Gen. Russel L. Honore addresses the crowd during last week's Leadership and Training Guest Speaker series. Honore, who became well known for his actions in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina, mixes of humor and frankness to explain the importance of leadership. The series hosts a speaker quarterly.**

### LEADER DEADLINES

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# Financial opposites can be overcome

For many couples, it can be tricky maintaining a harmonious relationship when dealing with money. It is not uncommon for couples to be “out of sync” when issues money arise.

In most cases, the core issue of money conflicts is power. Resolving the power struggle caused by money within relationships can be difficult, but not impossible. In finding and maintaining love, the theme “opposites attract” is commonly accepted and welcomed. It should be no surprise that those same opposites could reveal themselves when it comes to money in the marriage.

Here are a few common opposites:

## SAVER VS. SPENDER

This conflict is self-explanatory. In these current economic times, the saver has an edge. The spender may have agreed to cut back, but this might increase his or her stress level. In this power struggle, the spender may feel judged and controlled by the saver, resulting in the need for instant gratification through spending.

## WORRIER VS. AVOIDER

Many worriers are cringing at the latest economic news. Reports of job losses and stock market declines are keeping the worrier up at night. Avoiders prefer not think about the news reports. This can be misinterpreted by the worrier as a lack of concern.

## PLANNER VS. DREAMER

Dreamers fantasize about the life they want to live —

## FINANCIAL ADVICE

By **LATONYA BOSTON**  
*Financial planner*

maybe one filled with more play and less work. Planners want to calculate and think through every phase of the couple’s life. Miscommunication, or a lack of communication, can lead to stored-up resentment toward each other in this power struggle.

## CHARITY VS. ACCUMULATION

The spouse that is more charitably inclined sees money as a way to help and effect change so he or she tends to want to give more money away. The other spouse, however, is more focused on growing the couple’s assets. For that spouse, a bigger bank balance may equate to success, power, happiness and security.

## RISK TAKER VS. RISK AVOIDER

The risk taker is more inclined to take bigger gambles with the couple’s financial resources. This may involve stock investing, business ventures or other radical changes. The risk avoider prefers simplicity. In a power struggle, a risk avoider may feel as if he or she has more of an attachment to home and family, and tend to belittle the risk taker’s commitment to those same things.

## MERGER VS. SEPARATIST

A money merger prefers to have all of the couple’s fi-

nancial assets combined, whereas a separatist may want to keep all or some of the money separate. A merger may perceive a separatist as selfish and a power struggle here may result in feelings of distrust.

The first step to addressing these common opposites is to identify who you are and how your attitude shapes your perspective toward money.

The next step is empathetic communication, which means recognizing your spouse’s perspective so that you understand his or her point of view. Lastly, realize that your attitude toward money is not static.

How we view money changes as life changes. Getting married, having children, taking care of elders, transitioning from the military and retirement are all distinct phases in life. As you progress through these phases as a couple, realize that these changes may require you to reintroduce yourself to each other.

The anxiety of this economic downturn, along with the normal stress associated with whatever phase of life you are in, are enough to add tension to any relationship. Identifying money power struggles will hopefully lead to empathetic communication, mutual respect and a financial plan that will let you move forward together.

For more information on financial matters, contact Army Community Services Financial Readiness Program at 751-5256 or via e-mail at [Madelyn.Mercado@us.army.mil](mailto:Madelyn.Mercado@us.army.mil).

# National Day of Prayer service set

By **CHAPLAIN (MAJ.) JEFFREY SPANGLER**  
*Soldier Support Institute*

Fort Jackson will recognize the 58th National Day of Prayer Observance 11:30-noon, May 7, at the Main Post Chapel.

The observance is held on the first Thursday of May, and is an opportunity for people of all faiths to pray for the nation. It was created in 1952 by a joint resolution of Congress, and signed into law by President Truman. Later, President Reagan made the first Thursday in May the floating date of the observance. There have been several national days of prayer in the U.S. before the day was made official in 1952. The Continental Congress issued a day of prayer in 1775 to designate “a time for prayer in forming a new nation.”

During the Quasi-War with France, President Adams declared May 9, 1798 “a day of solemn humiliation, fasting, and prayer,” during which citizens of all faiths were asked to pray “that our country may be protected from all the dangers which threaten it.” The service will be followed by light refreshments

## Legal weapon



Photo by *CHIEF WARRANT OFFICER 3 VERONICA ROBERTS, 12th Legal Support Organization*

**Soldiers participating in the inaugural Southeast Regional U.S. Army Reserve Judge Advocate Training Operation practice their marksmanship at Fort Jackson’s Range 4. The training operation, which took place April 19-24, combined classroom instruction with warrior skills field training.**

# Post plan includes tips for preventing infection

Continued from Page 1  
ing flu viruses from reproducing in your body.

If you get sick, antiviral drugs can make your illness milder and make you feel better faster. They may also prevent serious flu complications. For treatment, antiviral drugs work best if started soon after getting sick (within 2 days of symptoms).

Fort Jackson MEDDAC has an adequate supply of Tamiflu if needed.

There is currently no vaccine to treat against swine flu.

If you have flu symptoms, please make an appointment with your health care provider here at Moncrief Army Medical Center by calling 751-CARE or by using the Web-based TRICARE online appointment system at <https://www.tricareonline.com>.

Anyone who has flu symptoms and has been in contact with a confirmed swine flu patient, or has been in one of the states or Mexico that have reported swine cases during the last seven days before their illness onset should be tested for influenza.

If you have any questions or would like updated information on Swine Flu, please visit the CDC Web site at [www.cdc.gov/flu/swine](http://www.cdc.gov/flu/swine) or call 1-800-CDC-INFO.

### PREVENTING INFECTION

- ❑ Wash your hands often using soap or an alcohol-based sanitizer.
- ❑ Cover your mouth and nose when coughing or sneezing. The proper way to sneeze or cough is into the sleeve of your shirt. When this method is used, the germs are trapped in the fabric and die; throw tissues in the trash after use.
- ❑ Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth.
- ❑ Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- ❑ Stay at home when you are sick. This will prevent others from being infected.

## Earth Day



Photo by CRYSTAL LEWIS BROWN

**Barbara Williams, environmental engineer, gives out environmentally-friendly goodies during an Earth Day event April 22. Among the items Spc. Brittney Raucci, McEntire Joint Air National Guard, took home was a bank made from a recycled can.**



# New late policy improves service

*Why did the Family Health Clinic change its late policy?*

The Family Health Clinic was losing up to 40 appointments a day because of late or no-show appointments. Lost appointments cost the hospital approximately \$2,880 a day. Under the previous late policy, there were no means to identify these missed appointments in time to allow for them to be filled.

*What is the change in the new policy?*

Under the new late policy, patients are told to arrive 15 minutes prior to their appointment in order to facilitate check in, screening and to earlier recognize late or no-show patients.

This change will allow us to identify no shows and open more stand-by appointments, which ultimately allows us to better service our customers.

**COL. NANCY HUGHES**  
*Fort Jackson  
Medical Department  
Activity Commander*



*When I arrive on time for my appointment, why does it seem like my doctor is running behind?*

Under the previous late policy, patients were allowed to arrive 10 minutes late for appointments and still be seen as if they were on time. Under the new policy, patients are to arrive 15 minutes before their appointment time to allow for processing and check in.

*If I arrive after my scheduled appointment time, what happens next?*

If a patient arrives after his or her scheduled appointment time, the patient has the option to be given a stand-by appointment.

There is no guarantee that a stand-by patient will see his or her primary care manager, because such patients will be booked for the next available time slot.

Patients may also choose to reschedule the appointment for a later time. However, patients who choose to stay will be seen that day.

*What are the benefits of the new late policy?*

The new late policy allows the clinic to maintain its schedules, reduce wait times and increase access to the Family Health Clinic. This will, in turn, also help improve overall patient satisfaction, because we are dedicated to our patients.

## MACH celebrates nurses week

*Moncrief Army Community Hospital*

Moncrief Army Community Hospital will be celebrating National Nurses Week throughout this week with a series of activities aimed at nursing staff.

From Monday through Friday, there will be several celebratory events for MACH nurses including a prayer breakfast, 'Get Fit, Get Funky' fitness workout session, ice cream social and a Nursing Grand Rounds.

National Nurses Week is an annual celebration that begins on National Nurses Day, May 6. The week ends May 12, the birthday of Florence Nightingale, who is often called the founder of modern nursing.

This year's theme is "Nurses: Building a Healthy America," which was chosen by the American Nurses Association. The ANA supports and encourages National Nurses Week recognition programs throughout state and district nurses associations, other specialty nursing organizations, educational facilities and independent health care companies and institutions.

Now is a prime opportunity to reflect on the commitment nurses make to society as evidenced by their emphasis on how to improve and maintain optimal health. When one thinks of health, losing weight, quitting smoking, eating healthy, managing stress more appropriately, getting a physical or

starting an exercise program — all things that help improve personal health — come to mind.

However, when nurses think of health, their thoughts range from hospital bed sides and long-term care facilities, to the halls of research institutions, state legislatures and Congress. They are thinking how the depth and breadth of the nursing profession is meeting the ever expanding health care needs of American society and beyond.

Nurses are strengthening their resolve to ensure that from pregnancy until assisting in reconciling grief after physical life has come to an end, they will do their best to build a healthy world.

## MACH updates

### OPHTHALMOLOGY

The Moncrief Army Community Hospital Ophthalmology Clinic will conduct quick cataract evaluations May 15 for all beneficiary categories, including active-duty family members, retirees and retiree family members.

To schedule an appointment, call 751-5406. Patients do not need a referral to schedule an appointment.

### CONSTRUCTION COMPLETED

The construction to the parking lot on the ground floor entrance to the hospital to make it more ADA compliant has been completed.

Staff members should only park where they are allowed. Stay off the grass or you will be ticketed.

### APPOINTMENT CANCELLATIONS

A phone number has been established for patients to call to cancel their appointments after duty hours.

To cancel an appointment after duty hours, call 751-2904. During duty hours, from 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., call 751-CARE (2273) to cancel an appointment.

### NEW PHARMACY LOCATION

The pharmacy is now located on the ground floor and the TRICARE, EFMP and EDIS offices are located on the 10th floor.

### MEDICAL RECORDS

Medical records are the property of the U.S. government and must be turned in at the Medical Records Station upon enrolling at MACH. Call 751-2471 for a copy.

### MACH TOLL-FREE NUMBER

Reach MACH toll-free at (877) 273-5584 or locally at 751-CARE (2273), or visit online at [www.moncrief.amedd.army.mil](http://www.moncrief.amedd.army.mil) or [www.tricare.osd.mil](http://www.tricare.osd.mil).

## WTU helps community



*Photo by NICHOLE RILEY, Moncrief Army Community Hospital*

**Soldiers from the Warrior Transition Unit donated more than 400 pounds of food to Harvest Hope Food Bank. The unit's three-week spring food drive began March 30. It was the second food drive conducted by the WTU. The unit's summer food drive is scheduled to start June 22.**



# Werner: Live with your choices

**Rank, name**  
Master Sgt. Randall Werner Jr.

**Unit**  
United States Army Garrison (IMCOM)

**Military Occupational Specialty / Job title**  
11Z, Infantry senior sergeant / DPTMS noncommissioned officer in charge

**Years in service**  
25 years

**Marital status**  
Married, three children

**Highest education**  
Bachelor’s degrees in business and liberal arts management; pursuing a Master’s of Business Administration

**Hobbies**  
Working on the house and cars and spending time with the family.

• • •

Master Sgt. Randall Werner Jr. has dedicated a quarter of a century to the Army, and he has challenged himself every step of the way.

While raising three children with his wife and having served on eight posts, Werner has earned two bachelor’s degrees and is working on an MBA.

He has been stationed at Fort Camp-



Photo by DELAWESE FULTON

**Master Sgt. Randall Werner has served for 25 years.**

## NCO spotlight

bell, Ky., Ft. Drum, N.Y., Scofield Barracks, Hawaii, Fort Sill, Okla., Camp Liberty Bell, Korea, USAREC, Morristown, Tenn., Fort Bragg, N.C., and Fort Jackson.

He has been deployed to Iraq.

His most memorable Army experience is his graduation from Airborne School.

Werner said good leadership has influenced his stay in the military.

“We have exceptional leaders in all ranks in the Army. They helped guide me to make choices in my career, live with my choices and to always have fun,” he said.

Werner plans to complete his MBA and attend the sergeants major academy and continue his career as a sergeant major.

We salute you!

## The NCO Creed

No one is more professional than I. I am a non-commissioned officer, a leader of Soldiers. As a non-commissioned officer, I realize that I am a member of a time-honored corps, which is known as “the backbone of the Army.” I am proud of the Corps of Non-commissioned Officers and will at all times conduct myself so as to bring credit upon the corps, the military service and my country regardless of the situation in which I find myself. I will not use my grade or position to attain pleasure, profit, or personal safety.

Competence is my watchword. My two basic responsibilities will always be uppermost in my mind — accomplishment of my mission and the welfare of my Soldiers. I will strive to remain technically and tactically proficient. I am aware of my role as a non-commissioned officer. I will fulfill my responsibilities inherent in that role. All Soldiers are entitled to outstanding leadership; I will provide that leadership. I know my Soldiers and I will always place their needs above my own.

I will communicate consistently with my Soldiers and never leave them uninformed. I will be fair and impartial when recommending both rewards and punishment.

Officers of my unit will have maximum time to accomplish their duties; they will not have to accomplish mine. I will earn their respect and confidence as well as that of my Soldiers.

I will be loyal to those with whom I serve; seniors, peers, and subordinates alike. I will exercise initiative by taking appropriate action in the absence of orders. I will not compromise my integrity, nor my moral courage. I will not forget, nor will I allow my comrades to forget that we are professionals, non-commissioned officers, leaders!



# Tragedy leads Soldier, wife to activism

By DELAWESE FULTON  
Leader Staff

Kendra Gaddie's parents want to prevent as many children and families from having to experience the pain that they had to endure.

A little more than 13 months ago, Kendra was struck on the left side of her head while in the care of a home day care operator. The blow to the infant's head caused brain and retinal hemorrhaging, according to her parents and media reports.

The home day care operator has pleaded guilty to the felony charge of great bodily injury to a child, and she was sentenced to five years probation.

Kendra's parents, Staff Sgt. Patrick Gaddie, 171st Infantry Brigade, and wife Michelle, believe that because of the "heinous act," the convicted day care operator should have received jail time.

Since last March, the Gaddies have pushed South Carolina lawmakers to strengthen sentencing requirements for people convicted of child brutality. As of now, the jail sentence for a person charged and convicted of causing great bodily injury to a child is zero to 20 years.

"There are some cases and some crimes where probation should never be an option," said Michelle Gaddie.

The Gaddies said they are amazed and disappointed that such a lenient sentence could be applied to a case involving serious harm to a child. Following the incident, the then 6-month-old Kendra spent days in a hospital intensive care unit and she is undergoing months of developmental therapy.

"What we would like to see is that the minimum sentence is from two to 20 years. We want to make sure some jail time is served," Staff Sgt. Gaddie said.



*Courtesy Photo*

**Staff Sgt. Patrick Gaddie and wife Michelle travel the state to garner support for "Kendra's Act," named after their 19-month-old daughter, shown here. At 6 months old, Kendra was injured by a home day care provider.**

The Gaddies have launched a "Justice for Kendra" Web site and have inspired Senate Bill 348, also known as "Kendra's Act." The bill calls for mandatory jail time for those who are convicted for crimes in which a child is seriously harmed. The mandatory sentence would be at least two years.

Some lawmakers, have expressed concerns about the bill's requirement for mandatory minimum sentencing. It will likely be next year before, and if, the bill passes.

"We will see this through — however

long it takes," said Michelle Gaddie.

The Gaddies said they have also filed a motion to have the home day care operator's probation-only sentence reconsidered. The case is being reviewed to determine whether there is a legal basis to change the sentence.

Michelle Gaddie said she is pleased the judge is taking the time to review the case and is examining all sides of the issue.

In addition to tougher sentencing in child injury cases, the Gaddies also hope that Kendra's Act makes it law for home day care workers to undergo yearly child

care and safety training. Currently, there is no such requirement.

"There is a lot that needs to be done. The people who run these home day cares ... are only required to register with DSS. There are no requirements for training," Michelle Gaddie said.

Marilyn Matheus, a media relations staffer at the S.C. Department of Social Services, said home day care operators caring for six children or fewer, register with the agency via an application.

Those operators caring for more than six children are required to meet additional standards.

According to the DSS Child Care Services Web site, home day care operators with seven to 12 children must have some formal child development or child education training or at least three years of experience working in a registered and approved child care facility.

Every weekend, Staff Sgt. Gaddie said he and his wife travel out of town, visiting various communities, to spread the word about what happened to their now 19-month-old daughter and the need for better child care laws in South Carolina.

In addition to Kendra, the Gaddies have a 19-year-old daughter and a 3-year-old son. Another son, Patrick Jr., died about four years ago.

Staff Sgt. Gaddie said despite the hardships, his family is strong and hopeful. The weekend trips, sharing their story, have been good for all of them.

"It is therapeutic. It brings awareness (to other parents) about what's going on. Ninety-nine percent (of the people we talk to) are parents. We're letting people know victims have a voice," Staff Sgt. Gaddie said.

*Delawese.Fulton@us.army.mil*



# PatriARTS connects arts, academics

By **SUSANNE KAPPLER**  
*Leader Staff*

This week, students at C.C. Pinckney Elementary School learn about Charles Lindbergh's flight across the Atlantic — by swing dancing. A visiting artist is teaching the students the “Lindy Hop” while incorporating history lessons about the era.

The artist's visit is part of the school's PatriARTS project, which is aligned with the South Carolina Arts in Basic Curriculum program. The school hosted its first visiting artist in 1989, and PatriARTS became part of the ABC project in 1995.

“We include all of the arts areas — visual art, music, dance and drama, creative writing and literature,” said Annette Francis, music teacher and PatriARTS project manager. “What we want to try to do is provide all five of these art areas for the students, not just with experts in each one of these fields, but also to integrate those into the classrooms.”

The project, which is funded by donations, consists of six elements: Arts classes, visiting artist residencies, performances, field studies, integration of arts into other academic areas and teacher training.

Throughout the school year, students are exposed to a variety of artists and art forms, ranging from African drumming workshops to architecture exhibits.

Francis pointed out that integrating arts into other subjects gives children a broader learning experience.

“Sometimes the lessons may be driven by the academic area. Sometimes the lessons may be driven by the arts area. But they dovetail beautifully,” she said. “That way, students learn that in life, all areas of learning overlap. Things are not separated by subject, like they are when you go to math and reading and social studies and music.”

Francis, who has been teaching for 32 years, also said that in her experience, students' involvement in arts has a range of benefits.

“I think we see students are more invested in school and more motivated in trying,” she said. “What I see is students who are motivated because of their genuine love of arts activities; students who will work very hard because they



*Courtesy Photo*

**Don Gruel and Noel Holland of Atlantic Coast Theater perform “Chicken Little, an Appalachian musical jamboree” at C.C. Pinckney Elementary School. During their two-day visit last October, the actors conducted workshops with students as part of the school's PatriARTS program.**

want to be involved in things that mean a lot to them.”

In addition, Francis said that children who may not be academically strong in other areas get a chance to excel in arts programs.

“I also have found that some of the students that I teach may not go into fields that we address with our standardized testing, but they will find their jobs in arts areas,” she said. “If we're not teaching those arts areas then we're not

addressing the areas where they may find their mode of making a living.”

Whether the students choose arts as a profession, Francis said she is confident that the program leaves an impression on them.

“I dare say that these kids won't forget who Charles Lindbergh is,” she said.

*Susanne.Kappler1@us.army.mil*

# Making down payments on education a wise option

By **KEISHA MCCOY-WILSON**  
*School Liaison Officer*

As the academic school year comes to a close and the concept of college becomes a reality for graduating seniors, college tuition may become a topic of discussion around the kitchen table.

As with almost everything, the cost of education is rising. It is difficult to imagine the need to put a “down payment” on education. Many people consider down payments when purchasing a home or an automobile, but making a down payment on education rarely comes to mind.

Though it may seem unusual, during these economic times, the idea has become popular. Educational down payments are considered early investments.

As with any investment, there is an expectation that the investment will later pay for itself. Like an annuity or retirement plan, the more you invest, the greater the likely profit.

The South Carolina Tuition Prepayment Program is a program that allows families to make a “down payment” on a child’s college education.

Families can “lock in” today’s rates and make payments toward future tuition costs and fees for their student to attend accredited colleges and universities across the country.

An additional resource for those interested in paying future tuition costs can be found in the Future Scholar Program. The program — a 529 Qualified Tuition Plan — offers families a flexible way to save for college expenses.

The Future Scholar Program allows for a state income tax deduction on account-based contributions.

## COLLEGE COMPARISON TOOLS

These tools were developed to assist families in identifying the colleges and universities best suited for their high school graduate.

- ❑ College Prowler College Guides  
[www.collegeprowler.com/find/by-ranking.aspx](http://www.collegeprowler.com/find/by-ranking.aspx)
- ❑ College Portraits  
[www.voluntarysystem.org/index.cfm](http://www.voluntarysystem.org/index.cfm)
- ❑ U-CAN  
[www.ucan-network.org/](http://www.ucan-network.org/)

## COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY RANKINGS

- ❑ Community College Week Top 100 Producers  
[www.ccweek.com](http://www.ccweek.com)
- ❑ Consumer Digest 100 Best College / Universities Values  
[www.pr-inside.com/consumers-digest-names-100-colleges-universities-t-r109926.htm](http://www.pr-inside.com/consumers-digest-names-100-colleges-universities-t-r109926.htm)
- ❑ Princeton Review Top Colleges  
[www.princetonreview.com/college/research/rankings/rankings.asp](http://www.princetonreview.com/college/research/rankings/rankings.asp)
- ❑ The Templeton Guide: Colleges That Encourage Character Development  
[www.collegeandcharacter.org/guide](http://www.collegeandcharacter.org/guide)

## NONPUBLIC SCHOOL PROFILES REVIEWS

- ❑ Association of Military Colleges and Schools of the United States  
[www.amcsus.org/](http://www.amcsus.org/)

## Schoolhouse notes

### FORT JACKSON SCHOOLS

- ❑ Tomorrow — teacher work day
- ❑ Wednesday — interim reports issued
- ❑ May 25 — Memorial Day, no school
- ❑ June 5 — end of fourth quarter; last day for students; early dismissal 11:30 a.m.
- ❑ June 8-9 — teacher work days
- ❑ June 10 — report cards mailed

### RICHLAND DISTRICT ONE

- ❑ May 29 — last day of school; report cards issued

### RICHLAND DISTRICT TWO

- ❑ Tuesday through May 8 — elementary interim reports issued
- ❑ May 25 — Memorial Day; no school
- ❑ June 5 — last day of school; end of fourth nine weeks
- ❑ June 6 — teacher work day; professional development

### FORT JACKSON HOMESCHOOLERS

- ❑ A get-together for home-schooled students is planned for Tuesdays. For more information, call 419-0760.

### OPERATION GRADUATION

- ❑ Partnerships in Education is offering live webcasts of high school graduation for deployed family members of graduates. Contact the SLO at 751-6150 as soon as possible.

### HIGH SCHOOL STABILITY

- ❑ Senior Stabilization Policy — Soldiers can request to remain in current duty location until child has graduated high school. Requests are made March of sophomore year through Sept. 1 of the child’s junior year. Late applications may be accepted. However, once the Soldier has orders, no applications can be made. Soldiers can submit a DD form 4187 through the chain of command. For more information, call 703-325-4422/5191 or contact the SLO at 751-6150.

### ADOPT-A-SCHOOL

- ❑ The Adopt-A-School program is in need of units interested in participating by volunteering in local on- and off- post schools. Adopt-A-School is an authorized program in accordance with AR 360-6, Army Community Relations. For information call 751-6150.

For more information on the South Carolina Tuition Prepayment Program, call 1-888-7SC-GRAD (1-888-772-4723) or visit [www.scgrad.org](http://www.scgrad.org).  
For more information on the Future Scholar Program, call 1-888-244-5674 or visit <http://www.futurescholar.com>.



# ACS programs connect job seekers, employers

The Army Family Covenant states, "We are committed to improving family readiness by expanding education and employment opportunities for family members."

A big part of how that is accomplished is through the Army Community Services Employment Readiness Program.

In keeping with that mission, ERP is hosting a Military Spouse Job Fair May 8, 9-11 a.m., in the Strom Thurmond Bldg., Room 223.

Participating agencies include: Fort Jackson Civilian Personnel Office (Federal Employment), AAFES, AllSouth Federal Credit Union, Wachovia, and the Fort Jackson Army Volunteer Corps (Volunteer Opportunities). The first 100 military spouse job seekers will receive a job search data and tips pocket handbook.

"Fort Jackson's Employment Readiness Program's primary function is to help military spouses and children with reaching their employment, education and volunteer goals," said Barbara Martin, ERP manager. "We offer a wide range of services, to include resume development, local job market research, job search assistance, home business opportunities, on- and off-post job listings, career counseling, Internet access to conduct job searches, scholarship information, teen employment assistance and a variety of workshops or individual training sessions."

Martin added, "Individuals can also visit the Employment Readiness Resources area to take advantage of free computer training, fax resumes, conduct online job searches or complete self-paced online training courses to improve their interviewing techniques or improve typing skills."

ERP offers a monthly Employment Readiness Orienta-

## Army Family Covenant

**THERESA O'HAGAN**

*Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation*

tion to help job seekers get a jump-start by providing information on job resources and job searching techniques.

After individuals attend the orientation class, an ERP staff member meets with the person individually to help them plan their short- and long-term employment and education goals.

Each participant will also receive daily e-mails from the ERP staff informing them of job openings, job fairs and employment resources. In the past, spouses have indicated that they have been able to find jobs more quickly by having direct access to the job posting via e-mail. Having access to the e-mail puts the job seeker in direct contact with the hiring official rather than having to post a job online on the employer's Web site.

"Our goal is to help the spouse find a job here, but also help them with their long range goals as well. We also help each individual explore career options by completing a career assessment tool and helping them create a resume," Martin said.

For more information about the Fort Jackson Employment Readiness Program or the job fair, visit [http://www.fortjacksonmwr.com/acs\\_emp/index.html](http://www.fortjacksonmwr.com/acs_emp/index.html) or call 751-5256/4862.

## FMWR calendar

### TODAY

- ☐ Visit Century Lanes for food, fun and bowling.
- ☐ Magraders Pub and Club is open for lunch.
- ☐ Visit the Officers' Club 11 a.m.-1:30 p.m. for specials or the buffet.

### TOMORROW

- ☐ Artistic Expressions with Jake, 6:30 p.m., Teen Room at the Youth Services Center.
- ☐ Dance to a variety of music provided by DJ Randall at Magraders Club, 9 p.m. to 3 a.m. Magraders Club is located in the back of Magraders Pub. Cover charge is \$5 for civilians and \$3 for military.
- ☐ Fish fry at the Officers' Club, 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.
- ☐ Palmetto Health Tournament, noon, Fort Jackson Golf Club, both courses.

### SATURDAY

- ☐ Step Team practice, 2 p.m., dance room at the Youth Services Center.
- ☐ Classic Soul Saturday, 9:30 p.m. to 2 a.m., Excalibur Room at the NCO Club. Cover charge is \$5 for civilians and \$3 for military. Live broadcast from the BIG DM 103.1 with giveaways, 9:30-11 p.m.

### SUNDAY

- ☐ Family day at the Youth Services Center, 2-6 p.m.
- ☐ Traditional brunch, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m, Officers' Club.
- ☐ American Girl Tea Party, 2-4 p.m., Officers' Club, Regimental Room.

### MONDAY

- ☐ The NCO Club offers a full lunch buffet Monday-Friday, 11 a.m. to 1:15 p.m. for \$7.

### TUESDAY

- ☐ Get Golf Ready, 5:30-7 p.m., Fort Jackson Golf Club, driving range.
- ☐ Parent Education / Interstate Compact Act Symposium, 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., Joe E. Mann Center ballroom.

### WEDNESDAY

- ☐ Karaoke night with Tom Marable at Magraders Club. Cover charge is \$5 for civilians and \$3 for military.
- ☐ Letters of intent for the Strongman Competition due at the Sports Office. The event is scheduled for May 14.

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

- ☐ New passport requirements take effect June 1. For more information about the new requirements, visit [www.fortjacksonmwr.com/travel](http://www.fortjacksonmwr.com/travel).
- ☐ The next Family Child Care Orientation Training is scheduled for May 11-15, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Joe E. Mann Center. The FCC program offers employment opportunities for military spouses who enjoy working with children. Registration is required by Wednesday. For more information, call 751-6234/1293.

### ONGOING OFFERS

- ☐ Enjoy resort accommodations for between two and six people with the Armed Forces Vacation Club for less than one would pay for most hotels. For details of resort availability, call the reservation center at (800) 724-9988. Be sure to say you are a first-time Armed Forces vacation caller. A vacation counselor will take your enrollment and help you find an available resort. Fort Jackson is installation number 164.1.
- ☐ The Officers' Club is ready to host your next special event. The club's professional staff will ensure every detail is addressed so your event will be to your specifications.





# Retiree, veteran focus group scheduled

Retirees and veterans have an opportunity to let their voices be heard during an upcoming Community FIRST focus group. The event is scheduled for Tuesday, 8 a.m. to noon, in the Plans, Analysis and Integration Office the conference room, Bldg. 3499.

This constituent-pure focus group, which convenes annually, provides a forum for retirees and veterans (those not currently on active duty) to discuss issues and concerns that affect them. It is designed to give them the opportunity to enhance the Fort Jackson community by suggesting improvements for services or recommending new services.

At the conclusion of this focus group, as with all Community FIRST focus groups, delegates will out-brief their issues directly to the Garrison Command. Each issue is then sent to the appropriate directorate or organization responsible for its resolution.

Community FIRST is an avenue for constituent groups to submit issues that cannot be resolved by facility managers through Interactive Customer Evaluation. Issues that surfaced during past Community FIRST Retiree-Veteran Focus Groups that either have been or are currently being addressed include:

- Changing TRICARE for dual insurance holders to pay more after the primary insurance carrier pays.
- Educating the community on pandemic flu.
- Providing a list of non-perishable food that can be stored in the event of a widespread emergency.
- Improving traffic flow at the intersection of Strom

## CUSTOMER SERVICE CORNER

By **VERONICA PATRICK**  
*Community FIRST Coordinator*

Thurmond Boulevard and Magruder Street.

- Allowing subscription service for the *Leader* newspaper;
- Providing a full-time VA Representative on Fort Jackson;
- Including frequently used Fort Jackson phone numbers in local area telephone books;
- Improving the medical records review process prior to turning in medical records at retirement;
- Posting adequate signage for Family Day parking.

CMS is seeking 12 to 15 delegates to actively participate in this year's focus group. All military veterans residing in the Fort Jackson area are eligible to participate and are encouraged to participate. Those interested in volunteering may call the Community FIRST Coordinator at 751-3425.

Volunteers are also needed to work as Facilitators, Recorders, Transcribers and Issue Support for this and

other upcoming focus groups. FRTIs will assist delegates in vetting and writing issues. Anyone can volunteer. Experience is not necessary.

Training, as well as child care, can be provided with advance registration. All that is required is a desire to be involved in the Fort Jackson community.

This is an opportunity to meet new people, earn volunteer hours, gain valuable work experience, and assist in impacting the services offered to retirees and veterans on Fort Jackson.

Community members can view all Community FIRST issues or check the status of specific issues on the Customer Management Services Web site by visiting <http://www.jackson.army.mil/WellBeing/wellbeing.htm>.

New issues may be submitted on the site as well by clicking "Submit an Issue or Recommendation" or clicking on the Community FIRST Logo.

Whether it affects community members here at Fort Jackson or throughout the Army, feedback is important.

## ICE APPRECIATION

The garrison congratulates the Defense Military Pay Office, specifically Customer Service Section; and the Directorate of Public Works, specifically Facility Service Order Section. Throughout a 12-week period, they achieved a 4.74 and a 4.67 percent rating, respectively, out of a possible 5.0 in employee/staff attitude. This is an outstanding performance in customer service.

## BCT honorees

### DRILL SERGEANTS OF THE CYCLE



**Sgt.**  
**Jason Campbell**  
Company A  
3rd Battalion,  
34th Infantry Regiment



**Sgt. 1st Class**  
**Michael Bost**  
Company E  
3rd Battalion,  
34th Infantry Regiment

### DFAC SUPPORT

Ruby Bates

### TRAINING SUPPORT

Pfc. Christopher Darrow

### SERVICE SUPPORT

Pfc. Nerva Charles

### FAMILY SUPPORT

Danielle Lea

### SOLDIER LEADERS OF THE CYCLE

A 3-34 Spc. Shaun Wilson  
E 3-34 Pvt. Sara Morris

### COMBAT FOCUS MARKSMANSHIP

A 3-34 Pvt. Samuel Medina  
E 3-34 Pvt. David Rivera

### SOLDIERS OF THE CYCLE

A 3-34 Pfc. Clifford Alston  
E 3-34 Pvt. Samantha Hirschmann

### HIGH PHYSICAL TRAINING SCORE

A 3-34 Pvt. Angel Quinonez  
E 3-34 Pfc. Sean Howard

**safety tips**  
Skin cancer is the most common form of cancer in the U.S.\*

- Limit sun exposure.
- Wear protective clothing.
- Wear sunscreen with an SPF of 15 or higher.

**safety**  
**a commitment to yourself**  
More than 90 percent of all skin cancers are caused by sun exposure.\*  
*Don't get burned this summer!*

\*Source: The Skin Cancer Foundation





# Army Community Service

## May calendar of events

**Monday, May 4**

**Play group\*** 10 a.m. to noon, Congaree National Park (free)

**Tuesday, May 5**

**Employment readiness orientation** 8:30 a.m.-noon, Strom Thurmond Building, Room 222

**Managing your emotions** 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., 5615 Hood St., Room 10

**La Leche breastfeeding support group** 10-11:15 p.m., 5615 Hood St., Room 8

**Resume writing for beginners** 1:30-3:30 p.m., Strom Thurmond Building, Room 222

**Wednesday, May 6**

**Newcomer's orientation/re-entry briefing** 9-11:30 a.m., Post Conference Room

**Play group** (every Monday & Wednesday) 10-11:45 a.m., 5615 Hood St., Room 8

**Child abuse prevention class** noon to 2 p.m., 5615 Hood St., Room 10

**Steps to federal employment** 8:30-11:30 a.m., Strom Thurmond Building, Room 222

**Thursday, May 7**

**AER commander's referral training** 9-10:30 a.m., Education Center Room B303

**Friday, May 8**

**Military spouse job fair** 9-11 a.m., Strom Thurmond Building, Room 222

**Saturday, May 9**

**EFMP strawberry picking** 10 a.m., Cottle Strawberry Farm (\$10 per bucket)

**Monday, May 11**

**Play group\*** 10 a.m. to noon, Fort Jackson Splash Park (free)

**Tuesday, May 12**

**Baby Basics** 10 a.m. to noon, Joe E. Mann Center conference room

**WorkKeys assessment** 9 a.m. to noon, Strom Thurmond Building, Room 222 (\$30 assessment fee)

**FRG forum** 10 a.m. to noon, Joe E. Mann Center ballroom

**EFMP bowling** 3:30-5:30 p.m., Century Lanes

**Wednesday, May 13**

**Child abuse prevention class** noon to 2 p.m., 5615 Hood St., Room 10

**Phase II levy briefing** 2:30-3:30 p.m., Strom Thurmond Building, Room 213

**Tuesday, May 19**

**COAST (new spouses social)** 1:15-2:30 p.m. 5615 Hood St., Room 10

**Wednesday, May 20**

**Financial readiness for first termers** 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Education Center, Room B302

**Information Exchange Council meeting** 9 a.m., Post Conference Room

**Play group\*** 10 a.m. to noon, Riverbanks Zoo (free for children younger than 3)

**Thursday, May 21**

**EFMP support group potluck** 5 p.m., Main Post Chapel

**Relocation planning workshop** 8:30-9:15 a.m., Education Center, Room B302

**Financial/relocation initial PCS class** 9-10:30 a.m. Education Center, Room B302

**Monday, May 25**

**Child abuse prevention class** 6-8 p.m., 5615 Hood St., Room 10

**Tuesday, May 26**

**Managing your emotions** 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., 5615 Hood St., Room 10

**Wednesday, May 27**

**Employment readiness program orientation** 8:30 a.m. to noon, Strom Thurmond Building, Room 222

**Resume writing for beginners** 1:30-3:30 p.m., Strom Thurmond Building, Room 222

**Play group\*** 10 a.m. to noon, Fort Jackson Splash Park (free)

**Art of prevention class** 2-8 p.m., 5615 Hood St., Room 10

**Phase II levy briefing** 2:30-3:30 p.m., Strom Thurmond Building, Room 213

**Financial planning for success** 9-11 a.m. Education Center, Room B302

*\*indicates a time, date or location change*

For more information or to register for classes, call 751-5256 or 751-6325.  
This information is published the last week of each month in *The Fort Jackson Leader*.

## Retiring from service



Photo by CRYSTAL LEWIS BROWN

From left: Sgt. 1st Class Earnest Lee (21 years in service), 165th Infantry Brigade; Lt. Col. Lisa Davis (21 years in service), MEDDAC; Lt. Col. David Cline (22 years in service), MEDDAC; and Master Sgt. Stephen Jenks (28 years in service), 81st U.S. Army Reserve Regional Support Command, were honored yesterday in a Retirement Review in front of Post Headquarters.

### LEADER DEADLINES

❑ Article submissions are due two weeks before the scheduled publication.

For example, an article for the May 14 Leader should be submitted by April 30.

❑ Announcements are due one week before the scheduled publication. For example, an announcement for the May 14 Leader should be submitted by May 7.

❑ Send all submissions to [FJLeader@conus.army.mil](mailto:FJLeader@conus.army.mil).

HAPPENINGS

Calendar

*Today*  
**Home buying education workshop**  
6 p.m., Post Conference Room  
Dinner will be provided.  
Call 751-5788/9339 to register.

*Saturday*  
**Earth Day hike**  
10 a.m.-noon, Palmetto Trail  
Enter through the Forest Drive gate only  
(Gate 2). Open to the public.

*Tuesday*  
**Retiree-veteran focus group**  
8 a.m.-noon, 3499 Daniel St.  
Refreshments will be served.  
Call 751-3425

*Wednesday*  
**Sergeants Major Association meeting**  
3-5 p.m., Post Conference Room  
Open to active duty and retired command  
sergeants major, sergeants major and pro-  
motable master sergeants.

*Friday, May 8*  
**Military spouse job fair**  
9-11 a.m., Strom Thurmond Bldg.,  
Room 223  
Call 751-4862/5256 for information.

**Military Spouse Day appreciation**  
11:30 a.m.-1 p.m., Strom Thurmond  
Bldg.,Room 120  
A rose and ACS goodie bag will be given  
to the first 100 attendees. Refreshments  
will be served.

*Saturday, May 9*  
**AG 3K Walk and 5K/10K Fun Run**  
7 a.m., Hilton Field  
All Soldiers and civilians are invited. The  
\$10 fee includes a T-shirt or water bottle.  
Call 751-3264/5008 for information.

*Tuesday, May 12*  
**Work Keys assessment training**  
Registration required.  
Call 751-4862/5256 for information.

*Wednesday, May 13*  
**Retired Officers Wives Club meeting**  
11:30 a.m., Officers’ Club  
Call Jo Lynn at 699-1768 or Cathy at  
783-1220 to RSVP by May 8.

*Thursday, May 14*  
**2009 Soldier & Vets  
Charity Golf Tournament**  
11 a.m., registration; Event starts at noon.  
Fort Jackson’s Old Hickory Golf Course  
Call 751-4329 for information.

Announcements

**FREEDOM SCHOLARSHIP**  
Applications are being accepted for the  
2009 American Patriot Freedom Scholar-  
ship until tomorrow. The scholarship is  
available to dependent children, 17 to 21,  
of military service members who will be

pursuing a post-secondary educational  
degree. A total of 25 individual \$1,000  
scholarships will be awarded.  
For more information visit *www.home-  
frontamerica.org/oohrahhome.htm*.

**AUSA SCHOLARSHIP**  
The Association of the United States  
Army, Fort Jackson — Palmetto State  
Chapter, is offering educational scholar-  
ships to chapter members. The deadline is  
May 15. For more information contact  
*SBBButler@bellsouth.net*.

**1ST BCTG SOLDIERS WANTED**  
The 1st Battle Command Training  
Group Army Reserve is establishing a de-  
tachment in the Columbia area and look-  
ing for Soldiers. There are immediate  
openings for Soldiers in ranks sergeant  
through lieutenant colonel, regardless of  
rank. For more information, call (205)  
987-8443 ext. 4414, (205) 444-  
5208/5163 or e-mail  
*Larry.KingSr@usar.army.mil*,  
*John.R.Walker@usar.army.mil* or *Kar-  
los.Parker@usar.army.mil*.

**SEVERE WEATHER SIREN**  
Fort Jackson tests its emergency siren  
warning system at noon on Wednesdays.  
The tests are designed to ensure the emer-  
gency alert system works and to raise  
awareness about the system’s existence.

**RECLAMATION SALE**  
A reclamation sale for Soldiers is  
scheduled for Monday-Friday, 8 a.m.-5  
p.m. at Building 2570, Warehouse Road.  
Cash only.  
May 4 — E1-E6 Active Duty or Ac-  
tive Duty Reservist.  
May 5 —Training cadre (1st Sgt.,  
commanding officer, training NCO, exec-  
utive officer).  
May 6 — All Active Duty, all ranks  
May 7 — All Active Duty, all ranks  
May 8 — Active Duty, Reservists, Na-  
tional Guard

**NEW MUSEUM HOURS**  
The U.S. Army Basic Combat Train-  
ing Museum’s new operating hours are as  
follows: Monday-Wednesday — closed;  
Thursday — 10 a.m.-6 p.m.; Friday 9  
a.m.- 4 p.m.

**BIG SERVICE AWARD**  
Submissions for the 2009 Blacks in  
Government Meritorious Service Award  
are being accepted until May 11. Soldiers  
and DoD employees are encouraged to

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Box 1137; Camden, S.C. 29020

apply. Submissions can be made through  
brigade equal opportunity advisers or the  
Installation EO Office. For more infor-  
mation, call 751-2990 or e-mail *Ja-  
neen.Simmons@conus.army.mil*.

**CID CRITERIA CHANGE**  
CID has changed its acceptance crite-  
ria to temporarily accept staff sergeants.  
The change now allows Soldiers, E-4 to  
E-6, regardless of MOS to apply. Appli-  
cants must be eligible to obtain a top se-  
cret clearance, be at least 21 years old  
and have served at least two years on ac-  
tive duty.  
To apply, visit *www.cid.army.mil* or  
contact the Fort Jackson CID office at  
751-7665/3789.

**RED CROSS SEEKS  
VOLUNTEERS**  
Volunteers are needed to support a shel-  
ter operations exercise 9 a.m-noon, May  
20 at the Red Cross Station Office. Call  
751-4329 to volunteer.

**MYRTLE BEACH MILITARY  
APPRECIATION DAYS**  
The Myrtle Beach Military Apprecia-  
tion Days are scheduled for May 28-30.  
The 5K run/walk is scheduled for Satur-  
day, May 30. Early registration deadline  
is tomorrow (by mail only). Registration  
is free for active duty military and \$20  
for veterans and civilians.  
Race day registration and packet  
pickup 6:30-7:45 a.m., Crabtree gym,  
1004 Meyers Ave. Race times are 8  
a.m., wheelchair 5K and 8:30 a.m., 5K  
run/walk.  
Call (843) 918-1191 for more infor-  
mation.

Housing events

*Tuesday*  
**Travel planning workshop**  
Info and deals on summer traveling.

*Friday, May 15*  
**Junior paleontologist adventure**  
3:15 p.m.  
Children 10 years and younger can dig  
for fossils, hunt for dinosaur eggs and  
more to become a junior paleontologist.

*Wednesday, May 20*  
**Sunscreen Awareness Day**  
1 p.m.  
Find out how to stay safe in the sun.

*Every Tuesday*  
**Walking club**  
9 a.m., Strollers are welcome.

*Every Thursday*  
**Kids Day**  
10 a.m., Themed activities for children  
younger than school age.

*All events are held in the Balfour Beatty  
Communities management office unless oth-  
erwise specified. For more information or to  
register for any events, call Courtney  
Williams at 738-8275.*

Pets of the Week



Photo by OITHIP PICKERT  
**Two tabby kittens, both 8 weeks  
old, are looking for a new home.  
For information on pet adoption or  
other services, call the Veterinary  
Clinic at 751-7160.**

Off-post events

*Saturday, May 9*  
**Palmetto Painters meeting**  
“Tools and Tips”  
10 a.m., West Columbia-Cayce Library  
781-2340 or *www.palmettopainters.com*  
for information.

**HOST AN EXCHANGE STUDENT**  
The Foundation for Intercultural Travel  
is an exchange visitor program that  
matches international students, 15 to 18,  
with host families in the local area. Call  
(877) 439-7862 for more information.

**HOMEOWNERS WORKSHOPS**  
The Homeownership Resource Center  
is offering a free foreclosure workshop  
for homeowners.  
First and third Saturdays, 9-11 a.m.  
and every last Tuesday of the month, 5-7  
p.m. at the Midlands Community Devel-  
opment Corporations-Dream Center,  
2340 Atlas Road.  
Call 1-888-320-0350 for information.

**New deadlines for Leader  
announcements**

Community submissions to the  
*Leader* should be typed, no more  
than 45 words, and should include  
time and place for events and a point  
of contact, when possible. **An-  
nouncements must be submitted  
one week prior to the event.** The  
*Leader* reserves the right to edit an-  
nouncements. To submit an an-  
nouncement,e-mail it to  
*FJLeader@conus.army.mil*.



# Post hosts military retirees, vets



Kyler Martin, 7, stands alongside his grandfather, retired Sgt. 1st Class Theodore Martin Jr., during the playing of the National Anthem at Saturday's Retiree Appreciation Day ceremony at Darby Field.

By CRYSTAL LEWIS BROWN  
Leader Staff

When April comes around, retired Master Sgt. William Richardson knows what he will be doing before even checking his calendar. Since he retired, he said, he eagerly anticipates attending Fort Jackson's Retiree Appreciation Days.

"I know it has been over five years I've been coming. I get a lot of information and some guidance," said Richardson, who traveled from Florence. "Every April, I look forward to coming here. Every year, I put it on my calendar — I'll be here."

Richardson was among the almost 2,000 retirees and veterans from across the region who flocked to Fort Jackson last Friday and Saturday as part of the annual event.

The weekend was jam-packed with activities aimed at both entertaining and informing the area military retirees and veterans. From bingo and bowling tournaments to a formal ceremony, there was something for everyone who came for the event, which culminated with an expo at the Solomon Center.

The expo included information booths from various on- and off-post agencies, as well as health screenings from Moncrief Army

Community Hospital and the Fort Jackson DENTAC.

Retired Col. Charles Murray, who was awarded the Medal of Honor in 1944 as a first lieutenant, said he has been attending RAD since his retirement in 1973.

"This is like one stop," he said. "It keeps improving each year, somehow. By hard work, they improve, improve, improve by having things retirees would like to see. They add new things all the time."

Like many of the attendees, his favorite part is seeing the Soldiers during the retirement ceremony "Pass in Review." He also likes being able to meet new friends and catch up with old ones.

"I walk up and down the lines here and see a lot of old friends. That's probably the best part," he said.

Retired Master Sgt. James Spradley said he also enjoys spending time with the Soldiers. Seeing the young Soldiers on the field during the retirement ceremony allows him to reminisce about his time in service.

"I don't ever remember a morning I got up that I wasn't proud to wear that uniform," he said. "It still breaks my heart sometimes that I don't get up to wear it anymore."

Crystal.Y.Brown@us.army.mil



Capt. Ryan Romero checks the teeth of Col. Kevin Shwedo, deputy commanding officer, during the health expo Saturday at the Solomon Center.



Photos by CRYSTAL LEWIS BROWN

Retired Air Force Master Sgt. Harlan Haycraft displays his form in a practice game before Friday's bowling tournament at Century Lanes. The tournament was one of many events held Friday, which included a bingo tournament, AAFES and commissary sidewalk sales and a retiree dinner, where retired Sgt. Maj. of the Army Robert Hall served as guest speaker.

Sgt. Hans Bjorklund, with Moncrief Army Community Hospital Optometry, screens retired Master Sgt. Dale Dillow for glaucoma.



# Dental care available for retirees

*I am a retired service member. How do I pursue dental care benefits?*

Dental care is separate from medical care. As a result, the types and amounts of coverage afforded to patients are different. Per DoD regulatory guidance, military dental treatment facilities provide care solely for active-duty Soldiers, Sailors, Marines and Airmen. Historically, family members and retirees were eligible for care in the military DTFs.

However, in the 1990s, a change in dental coverage was fully implemented across all services. In order to fulfill the promise of access to lifelong care, Congress directed the implementation of a new dental program to provide dental coverage for military retirees.

Retired service members' dental benefit coverage is now provided under the TRICARE Retiree Dental Program. The program began Oct. 1, 1997.

The TRDP is offered by DoD through the TRICARE Management Activity. The federal services division of Delta Dental Plan of California, located in Sacramento,

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**COL.  
MICHAEL CUENIN**  
*Fort Jackson  
DENTAC commander*

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Calif., administers and underwrites the TRDP for the TMA. The TRDP offers comprehensive, cost-effective dental coverage for military retirees and their eligible family members.

The TRDP provides dental care for service members who are entitled to retired pay, members of the retired Reserve younger than 60, those who have received the Medal of Honor, surviving spouses who have not remarried and certain other eligible family members. By law, former spouses are not eligible for TRDP coverage.

Enrollment in the TRDP is voluntary and is administered by the Delta Dental Plan of California.

The TRDP is funded solely by enrollees and receives no government subsidy. It was implemented under different legislation and different rules from those applicable to active-duty family members and Reserve and National Guard members.

More than 700,000 retirees and their eligible family members are enrolled.

The TRDP has been designed to provide service members, retirees and their families with comprehensive dental benefits at an affordable cost. Monthly premium amounts for enrollees in the enhanced TRDP will vary depending on state of residence and the number of family members enrolled.

To allow patients to save even more in out-of-pocket expenses, Delta Dental offers a dentist network with more than 100,000 locations nationwide. These network dentists have agreed to bill negotiated fees and to submit all claim paperwork directly.

Visit <http://www.trdp.org/> for more information.



# What is it like to do God’s will?

By **CHAPLAIN (Capt.) MASAKI NAKAZONO**  
*3rd Battalion, 34th Infantry Regiment*

Sometimes, determining what people want from us can be downright frustrating. Our boss or our spouse or our parent can tell us what they want from us, but why does it seem that they really want something else from us? What are their real expectations for us?

When we don’t meet their expectations, they get frustrated with us and we become discouraged. Now what about God’s will? If following the will of others in our lives is such a challenge, how hard must it be to do God’s will?

God says in Jeremiah 29:11, the plans he has for us are good. The plans he has for us are not harmful. His plans are to make us grow and prosper. His plans give us hope.

His plans are for our future.

A good parent understands what is good for his or her child and provides for the child as best as possible. But why does the child fight against the will of the parent? Is it fear? Is it mistrust? Is it doubt? Is it self will? We all want to do our own thing, don’t we? Just like kids. Maybe God refers to us as his children because we act like children most of the time — doing our own thing and not seeing the big picture.

But imagine what it would be like, for just a moment, not to be like young and unwise children or rebellious and defiant teenagers. What would it be like to abandon our plans and our self will and step out onto God’s plans and to do His will? I wonder if it would be like St. Peter’s encounter with Jesus on the lake (Matthew 14:22-29).

Jesus is on the water of a lake walking toward St. Peter and the disciples, who are on a boat. They had never seen anything like this and they freaked out. They thought a ghost was moving toward them. But Jesus tried to calm them as He spoke to them. And St. Peter, as a skeptic, says “Lord, if it is you, tell me to come to you on the water.”

So Jesus said, “Come.”

What did St. Peter do? He did God’s will. He stepped out of the boat and moved toward Jesus. In a miraculous event, St. Peter walked on the water toward Jesus. That’s what I think doing God’s will is like. It’s like walking on water. What a rush of an experience for St. Peter. What an experience for ourselves.

— “*There is no greater place to be than to live in the midst of his presence and the center of his will.*”



**Protestant**

- Sunday  
8 a.m. and 11 a.m. Daniel Circle Chapel (Gospel)  
7:45 a.m. Bayonet Chapel (Hispanic)  
9 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. Magruder Chapel  
9:30 a.m. Main Post Chapel  
10:45 a.m. Post-wide Sunday School (Main Post Chapel)  
11 a.m. Memorial Chapel  
11 a.m. Chapel Next, USACHCS, Fox/Poling Lab.
- Wednesday  
6 p.m., Prayer Service Daniel Circle Chapel  
7 p.m. Gospel Mid-week Service Daniel Circle Chapel

**PROTESTANT BIBLE STUDY**  
■ Monday

- 7 p.m. Women’s Bible Study (PWOC — Main Post Chapel, Class 209)  
■ Wednesday  
7 p.m. Anderson Street Chapel  
7 p.m. Daniel Circle Chapel  
7 p.m. Gospel Congregation’s Youth (Daniel Circle Chapel)  
■ Thursday  
9:30 a.m.-noon Women’s Bible Study (PWOC, Main Post Chapel)  
6 p.m. Neighborhood CMF/OCF Bible Study (Call 790-4699)  
7 p.m. LDS Bible Study (Anderson Chapel)  
■ Saturday  
8 a.m. Men’s Prayer Breakfast (Main Post Chapel, (every second Saturday of the month in Chapel Fellowship Hall)

**PROTESTANT YOUTH OF THE CHAPEL**  
■ Saturday  
11 a.m. Daniel Circle Chapel (third Saturday)  
■ Sunday  
5 p.m. Main Post Chapel  
**Catholic**

- Monday-Friday  
11:30 a.m. Mass (Main Post Chapel)  
■ Sunday  
8 a.m. Mass (MG Robert B. Solomon Center)  
11 a.m. Mass (Main Post Chapel)  
9:30 a.m. Mass (120th AG Battalion Chapel)

- 9:30 a.m. CCD (Education Center)  
9:30 a.m. Adult Sunday School  
12:30 a.m. Catholic Youth Ministry  
■ Wednesday  
7 p.m. Rosary  
7:30 p.m. RCIA/Adult Inquiry

**Lutheran/Episcopalian**  
■ Sunday  
8 a.m. Memorial Chapel

**Islamic**  
■ Sunday  
8-10 a.m. Islamic Studies (Main Post Chapel)  
■ Friday  
12:30-1:45 p.m. Jumah Services (Main Post Chapel)

**Jewish**  
■ Sunday  
9:30-10:30 a.m. Memorial Chapel  
10:30-11:30 a.m. Jewish Book Study (Post Conference Room)

**Church of Christ**  
■ Sunday  
11:30 a.m. Anderson Street Chapel

**Latter Day Saints**

- Sunday  
9:30 a.m. Anderson Street Chapel

**Addresses, phone numbers**

- Daniel Circle Chapel**  
3359 Daniel Circle, Corner of Jackson Boulevard, 751-4478
- Main Post Chapel**  
4580 Strom Thurmond Blvd., corner of Scales Avenue, 751-6469
- Bayonet Chapel**  
9476 Kemper St., 751-4542
- Family Life Chaplain**  
4850 Strom Thurmond Blvd. (inside of Main Post Chapel), 751-5780
- Anderson Street Chapel**  
2335 Anderson St., Corner of Jackson Boulevard, 751-7032
- Education Center**  
4581 Scales Ave.
- Magruder Chapel**  
4360 Magruder Ave., 751-3883
- 120th Rec. Bn. Chapel**  
1895 Washington St., 751-5086
- Memorial Chapel**  
4470 Jackson Blvd., 751-7324
- Chaplain School**  
10100 Lee Road, 751-8050

# Taking the right steps to end a lease

By CAPT. JENIFFER COX  
Legal Assistance Attorney

In October, Congress revised the legislation that provides protections to service members when they are deployed or PCS to CONUS and OCONUS locations.

The Servicemembers Civil Relief Act, or SCRA, includes provisions to help service members end residential and automobile leases sooner than stated in the contract, reduce their interest rates on certain types of debts and obtain stays for pending civil court matters.

The intent of the SCRA is to provide a protective shield for the service member; not to be used as a sword to get out of legitimate obligations. Therefore, nearly every section of the SCRA requires the service member to be proactive and to request protection.

As we are nearing PCS season, the number of inquiries about cancelling residential

leases is on the rise. Service members are not permitted to simply move out or abandon a residential lease because they receive PCS orders. In order to receive the protections of the SCRA, they must take several important steps.

First, the service member must determine if the lease they entered into with the landlord is covered by the SCRA.

In order to be covered, the lease must have been, “executed by or on behalf of a person who thereafter and during the term of the lease enters military service” or “the service member, while in military service, executes the lease and thereafter receives military orders for a permanent change of station or to deploy with a military unit for

a period of not less than 90 days.” These are the only situations in which the service member is eligible to terminate the lease.

Once the service member determines that the lease is covered, he or she must deliver written notice to the landlord of the termination and include a copy of the PCS or deployment orders. Delivery is effective if it is made to the landlord or the landlord’s agent by hand delivery, private business carrier or certified mail with return receipt requested.

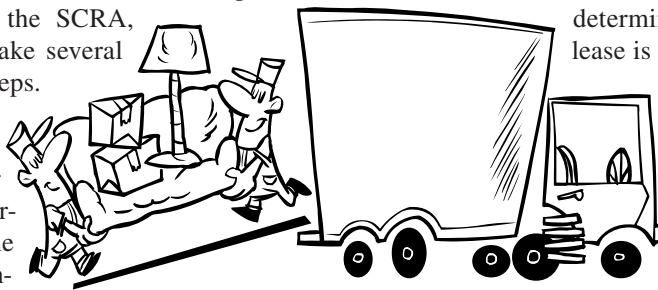
The termination is not effective immediately after delivery. If the service member is in a month-to-month lease, the termination is effective 30 days after the

first date on which the next rental payment is due and payable after the date on which the notice is delivered.

For example, if notice is provided to the landlord on April 15, and the next rental payment is due May 1, the termination will be effective May 31.

Service members are still responsible for unpaid rent or fees that occurred prior to the effective date of termination. After the termination date, the landlord is required to refund the service member any amounts of prepaid rent within 30 days. Service members may be entitled to additional protections under the state law as well.

**Editor’s note:** This article is intended for information purposes only and is not intended as legal advice. The Legal Assistance Office has appointments available for service members to discuss this and other aspects of the SCRA. Service members can make an appointment by calling 751-4287.



# DA tobacco ban extends beyond cigarettes

By SGT. 1ST CLASS LATARNYA WHITMIRE  
Assistant Inspector General

When the Army banned smoking in DA-occupied workplaces, 1st Lt. Semaj began using smokeless tobacco, which is commonly known as dipping. While at work, Semaj would dip and carry around a container to spit the tobacco in.

A few of the Soldiers and civilians who worked with him noticed his habit and knew it was against regulatory guidance but they did not say anything to him because they had seen many others doing the same thing. They did not want to cause any problems so they just disregarded it.

A few weeks ago, while TDY at another installation, Semaj was approached by a Soldier who informed him

that the use of smokeless tobacco while at work was against regulatory guidance.

Semaj was quite confused by this information because no one had ever said anything to him about it before and furthermore, he was under the impression it only pertained to cigarettes. He thanked the Soldier for the information and then sought out the regulation to see for himself.

He looked in AR 600-63 “Army Health Promotion,” dated May 7, 2007, Chapter 7, and there it was clearly stated that the use of tobacco products (cigarettes, cigars, cigarillos, smokeless and inhaled tobacco, and all other tobacco products designed for human consumption) were prohibited in all DA-occupied workplaces except for designated smoking areas by Active and Reserve Components and appropriated and non-appropriated fund civilian

personnel.

The workplace includes any area inside a building or facility over which DA has custody and control and where work is performed by military personnel, civilians or persons under contract to the Army.

Tobacco products are also prohibited in all military vehicles and aircraft, and in all official vans and buses. AR 600-63 also states personnel violating this regulation could be subjected to administrative and disciplinary actions.

Upon returning back to work, Semaj spoke with the Soldiers and civilians in his section about what he had read and explained that he would follow the regulation. He also encouraged all government employees to enforce standards and report violations.



# FIRST RESPONDER

The following are incidents compiled from reports, complaints or information received from the Fort Jackson Provost Marshal Office.

The incidents reflected are not an adjudication attesting to the guilt or innocence of any person and are provided for informational and reflective purposes only.

**Lt. Col. Ronald F. Taylor**  
*Director,*  
*Emergency Services/Provost Marshal*  
**Sgt. Maj. Allen Taylor Jr.**  
*Provost Sergeant Major*  
**Billy Forrester**  
*Fire Chief*



## CASES OF THE WEEK

❑ Military Police and the Fort Jackson Fire Department responded to a call about a suspicious package in an outdoor area. The item turned out to be a cooler left behind by a unit that had conducted physical training in the area, MPs said.

❑ While digging at a construction site, a worker discovered an ammunition can containing almost 300 rounds of blank machine gun ammunition, MPs said. The construction site was cleared and the ammunition was removed.

❑ A Soldier complained about loud music coming from her neighbor’s house, MPs said. MPs asked the neighbor to turn down the music, which he did.

ties all go better with music. However, not everyone enjoys the same music we do nor do we all work the same schedules. Our day time could be some else’s nighttime.

Fort Jackson Supplement to Army Regulation 190-5 states in paragraph 5-5 j, (4), “The use of any electric sound generating device or amplification source, used in a manner so that the sound being audible to the human ear 125 feet from the source is prohibited. This includes, but is not necessarily limited to, radios, stereos, tape players, compact disc players, including such sound sources as may be installed or located in motor vehicles and which are not in use by law enforcement or emergency response personnel or as a warning device.”

Violators of this policy can be cited. Penalties can range from warnings to having privileges to use recreational areas revoked by the commander. So, enjoy your time with friends and family but keep the noise down in consideration of others in the community.

## TIP OF THE WEEK

With the weather turning warmer and the days getting longer, outdoor activities increase. Barbecues, picnics and sporting activi-



# FORCE PROTECTION

## THOUGHT OF THE WEEK

WHEN?

WHEN?

WHEN?

WHEN?

### When will the next attack occur?

## LEADER DEADLINES

- ❑ Article submissions are due two weeks before the scheduled publication. For example, an article for the May 14 Leader should be submitted by April 30.
- ❑ Announcements are due one week before the scheduled publication. For example, an announcement for the May 14 Leader should be submitted by May 7.

Iron Man



Retired Army Maj. Patrick Stewart sets up for an iron shot in the Retiree Appreciation Days Golf Tournament Friday at the Fort Jackson Golf Club. More than 100 retirees and guests competed in the tournament at the beginning of the two-day event.

Photo by ASHLEY HENRY

Sports shorts

Registration for Fort Jackson’s annual Strongman Competition is open. The event is scheduled for May 14, 6 p.m. at the Hilton Field Softball Complex. The registration deadline is May 12. There is no entry fee for Soldiers. For more information, call 751-3096.

Letters of intent for summer basketball are due by May 22. The summer basketball league is for active duty personnel only. For more information, call 751-3096.

The softball season is under way with games taking place at Hilton Field Softball Complex at 6 p.m., 7 p.m. and 8 p.m. nightly. For more information, call 751-3096.

A Father’s Day basketball tournament for players 30 and older is scheduled for June 5-7 at Vanguard Gym. The field is limited to eight teams. Teams must sign up by May 29. The entry fee is \$150 per team. For more information, call 751-4526/4384

For youth sports information, call 751-5610/5040. For golf, call 787-4437/4344. For general sports information, call 751-3096.

Health Rocks is a monthly event offering fun fitness activities and games at the Youth Services Center. It takes place the second Friday of each month, 6:30-9 p.m. Health Rocks is open to children registered with Child, Youth and School Services. To attend, sign up at the Youth Services Center the week before the event. For more information, call 751-6385.

CONTACTING THE LEADER

The *Leader* accepts ideas for articles relevant to the Fort Jackson community. Send your story ideas to FJLeader@conus.army.mil or call 751-7045.

Article submissions are due two weeks before the scheduled publication. For example, an article for the May 21 Leader should be submitted by May 7.

Announcements are due one week before the scheduled publication. For example, an announcement for the May 21 Leader should be submitted by May 14.

Send submissions to FJLeader@conus.army.mil.